

# NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 1945

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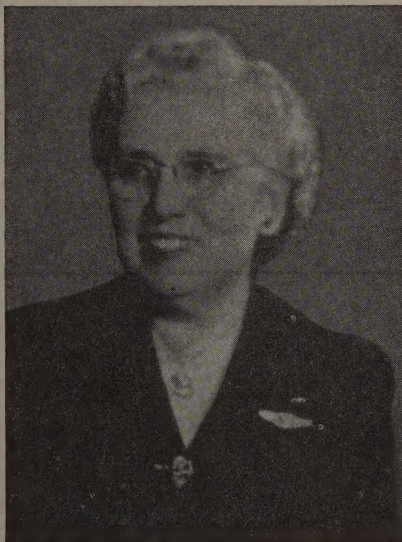
## MONTHLY MEMO TO LOCAL PRESIDENTS

**N**OVEMBER is a real parent-teacher month, isn't it? All across the country we celebrate not only the great home festival of Thanksgiving but also American Education Week.

**Education.** This year we should give special attention to the meaning of education in our own nation and in other countries. We have to remind ourselves that the *sort* of education is of great importance, for remember that both Germany and Japan believed strongly in education. Nevertheless, theirs was an education that poisoned the minds of their own children and youth and which is still an active evil force in the world today even though these countries have been conquered in war. Ideas can be defeated only by other ideas. Therefore we must build up ideals of cooperative and friendly living in the world to replace those of racial superiority and military aggression. It was especially fitting that Germany's formal surrender took place in a French schoolhouse. We hope that the schoolhouses of the world may finally destroy the vicious ideas of the Hitler regime.

At this time the delegates from many of the United Nations are meeting in London to take the first steps toward bringing into being an International Educational Organization. The most active work of the parent-teacher consultants at San Francisco was done in cooperation with others to get the words "educational cooperation" into the United Nations Charter and thus make possible the meeting now going on in London. We shall hear more about this later. Watch for news of it.

**Home.** May this season bring you happy family reunions and many other reasons for thanksgiving this year. Also,



*Mrs. William A. Hastings*

in the midst of your happiness and plenty, will you take thought of the millions in Europe who are likely to starve or to suffer seriously from the ills of malnutrition and the lack of clothing and shelter unless help is given them. If you haven't already done so, won't you send cards to your representatives in Congress and also to Representative Clarence Cannon, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, asking that the United States Congress vote the UNRRA appropriations immediately. The unpaid balance of the 1945 UNRRA has just been voted out of committee, and now the work is to receive funds for 1946—which should be the last year for this type of relief activity. However, it will still be necessary this winter and next year until crops can be raised, buildings and railways restored to some extent, and opportunities renewed for people to care for themselves.

**Compulsory Military Training.** Will you help us? The National Board of Managers meets early in December, and we will discuss the important subject of compulsory military training. We want to know how you, the members, feel about this matter. Will you send me a note or a card to the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 600 South Michigan Boulevard, Chi-

cago 5, before November 25? That means you should write at once. When the members of your National legislative committee speak for us in Washington, they will want to know what you think. Your National Board also wants to know.

Remember that we are supposed to be trying to build a peaceful world for our children to live in; and now an organization for this purpose has been formed. We must be able to protect ourselves when necessary, but we have no desire to make war on others. We also have to think about whether or not the atomic bomb has changed all our earlier ideas of what constitutes the best method of protection.

Some people think it would be advisable to have a commission of able men and women study this whole matter and make recommendations to Congress. There is no hurry for an immediate decision, for we still have all the men and materials we need for any emergency, and we shall have them for some time to come. Are we ready yet to decide this issue as a nation? Do we know enough about all that is involved? What do you think? This is your opportunity to help shape national thinking on an issue of importance to every one of us.

**Racial Attitudes.** While we are striving for world unity we must not forget that we should build better relations among the many different sorts of people who are American citizens. At times I am afraid that some of the Nazi doc-

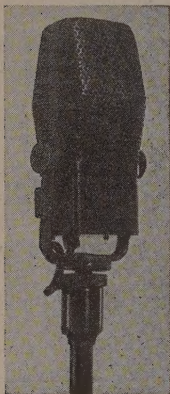
*(Continued on page 2)*

Through the cooperation of the National Broadcasting Company, our National Congress radio program will go on the air for fifty-two weeks, starting December 8, 1945. Be sure to plan now to listen to this outstanding program. *The Baxters* have become a parent-teacher byword in homes throughout the country.



# IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!

• National Congress Radio Program on the Air December 8, 1945



IT WON'T be long now, parent-teacher members! Get your listening groups organized and plan your Saturday schedule so you'll be ready to welcome the Baxters, our own radio family, back into your homes. They'll be on the air Saturday, December 8, at the same time—12:30 p.m.—over the same nation-wide NBC network.

(Continued from page 1)

trines have traveled to this country and must be fought here as well as abroad. There is no group in America today that has a better opportunity to help different sorts of people to know each other than our parent-teacher organization, because all kinds of people send their children to the public schools. We meet in a natural way and find that parents of every race and creed have much in common, for they all want the best advantages for their children. Won't you work with your educators in helping avoid or eradicate any racial prejudices in your school district? I have received copies of resolutions taken by several associations in schools where unfortunate things have happened, and I am delighted to know that our leaders understand the dangers in racial and religious discrimination and have taken a determined stand against it.

Thanksgiving is an appropriate time to remind ourselves that all of us—or our fathers or forefathers—came from some other land. All of them gave something to the building of this country and each one received many advantages from being here.

Do you recollect the words on the Statue of Liberty?

*"Give me your tired, your poor,*

*Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,*

*The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,*

*Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me;*

*I lift my lamp beside the golden door."*

And from that time on they'll be with you each week for a whole year! For fifty-two Saturdays you'll be sharing the fun, the day-to-day problems, and the general three-ring-circus atmosphere of life in the Baxter household.

If you haven't yet been so fortunate as to meet this turbulent, rollicking family let us introduce them to you now. There are, first of all, Marge and Bill, youthful parents of three irrepressible youngsters. They are intelligent parents, too. They love their children, but they neither monopolize them nor seek to cast them in a mold of their own making. And Janey, Bud, and Sandy reflect this wise and gentle care. Each has a vivid personality, well tempered with family love and loyalty.

Perhaps at your Christmas program you might remember that the Jews celebrate an old, old festival at the same season and then see what you can learn about it. You might possibly have people of various races tell about their Christmas traditions or sing their Christmas songs as part of your program.

• • •

Our third Object, "the care and protection of children and youth," takes us into many subjects these days and demands of us an interest in all that is going on at home and abroad. We must do our best to make this world a good home for our own and for all other children, and that is indeed a large order in these troubled times. Each of us can do something, although none of us can do everything. Nevertheless, the efforts of 3,500,000 people added together can truly be a mighty force! May we use this power patiently and courageously in the slow and difficult task of trying to build orderly ways of living in a chaotic and confused world. This task demands even more of us than uniting in war against common foes.

*Myrietta A. Hastings*  
President  
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

Membership cards are distributed from the state congress office—not from the National Office.



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**D**URING October alone this year 29,204 persons subscribed to *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine!* Each day the magazine gains new friends and new readers. Why? Because . . .

- It is the best counselor and helper a parent-teacher member can find.
- It contains answers to home-school questions that are constantly being asked.
- It supplies parent-teacher information not obtainable elsewhere.
- It is published by parent-teacher people whose long and varied experience enables them to choose the type of articles and features that will school successful leaders at all levels of the organization.
- It is just plain, good business to pay \$1 for something that will be worth one hundred times \$1 in terms of information brought into the home, the school, and the community.

Was your subscription among the 29,204 we received in October? If so, we take this means of thanking you for it, and if you subscribed earlier, we thank you, too. If you haven't subscribed yet, we hope we'll receive your subscription this month. If you are a local president, by all means urge your association to budget at least \$1 for a subscription for the association. Your group should not be missing the type of material that is being published monthly in the *National Parent-Teacher*. It is really a remarkable publication.

To subscribe, send a check or money order for \$1 payable to the *National Parent-Teacher* magazine and mail to

National Parent-Teacher  
600 South Michigan Boulevard  
Chicago 5, Illinois

## NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

Volume 13 NOVEMBER 1945 Number 3

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## CONGRESS CONTACTS

**T**HIS year, as always, the National Congress has been well represented at meetings and conferences of those organizations whose aims are in accord with ours. However, because of the drastic curtailment of transportation, the selection of National officers and chairmen to represent the Congress has been determined largely by geography. Meetings have been attended by those members of the Board of Managers who live within a reasonably short distance of the meeting place. Since most national organizations and government agencies met in cities on the East Coast, the majority of the Congress representatives were selected from that area. Here is a list of important meetings in which they participated.

- American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, meeting of representatives of national organizations to study the nation-wide legislative program for health and physical fitness. Mrs. Glen L. Swiggett, member of our Washington, D. C., legislation committee.
- American Association of School Administrators, 1947 yearbook committee meeting. Howard V. Funk, former second vice-president.
- American Association for the United Nations, meeting. Mrs. Clifford N. Jenkins, president, New York State Congress.
- American Forum of the Air. Mrs. Bess N. Rosa, National chairman, committee on Social Hygiene.
- American Council on Education, conference to discuss the proposed plans for the organization of an international office of education. Mrs. William A. Hastings, National president.
- American Social Hygiene Association, meetings. Mrs. William A. Hastings, National president; Mrs. Bess N. Rosa, National chairman, committee on Social Hygiene.
- American Women's Voluntary Services, Inc., meeting to discuss the holding of a forum on household employment. Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president.
- Association for Childhood Education, meetings. Mrs. Glen L. Swiggett, member of our Washington, D. C., legislation committee.
- British Columbia Parent-Teacher Federation, annual convention. Mrs. J. S. Stewart, regional vice-president.
- Camp Fire Girls, meeting of the world friendship committee. Mrs. Clifford F. Thompson, former regional vice-president.
- Child Study Association of America, conference: "The Decisive Decade Ahead; What Will It Bring to Our Children?" Mrs. P. B. Digby, former regional vice-president.
- Children's Book Week, gala luncheon. Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president.
- Children's Bureau and the executive board of the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers, joint conference. Mrs. William A. Hastings, National president.
- Citizens Radio Anniversary Committee, luncheon. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- Committee on Physical Fitness and the Council on Dental Health, American Dental Association, meeting. Mrs. James C. Parker, regional vice-president.
- Community Chests and Councils, advisory committee on volunteer service, meeting. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- Cooperating Committee on School Lunches, meeting. Mrs. Paul H. Leonard, National chairman, committee on School Lunch.
- Conference on Long-Term Cooperative Planning for Young Children. Mrs. Malcolm McClellan, National chairman, committee on Legislation; Charles W. Phillips, second vice-president.
- Emergency Conference on the World Food Crisis. Mrs. Glen L. Swiggett, member of our Washington, D. C., legislation committee.
- Food for Freedom, Inc., meeting with President Truman. Mrs. William A. Hastings, National president.
- National Association of Broadcasters, Association of Women Directors, conference on women of the United Nations. Mrs. Clifford F. Thompson, former regional vice-president.
- National Conference for Cooperation in Health Education, meetings. Martha L. Clifford, M.D., National chairman, committee on Health and Summer Round-Up of the Children.
- National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers, meeting. Mrs. E. N. Howell, president, North Carolina Congress.
- National Planning Association, meeting to discuss plans for a national conference on family life. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- National Safety Council, meeting to discuss school safety education. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president.
- National Share-the-Food Day, starvation luncheon. Mrs. Clifford N. Jenkins, president, New York State Congress.
- National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, committee on convalescence, conference on convalescent care for children. Elise H. Martens, National chairman, committee on the Exceptional Child.
- National Women's Advisory Committee on Social Protection, meeting. Mrs. Bess N. Rosa, National chairman, committee on Social Hygiene.
- National Youth Conservation Clearinghouse, meetings. Mrs. H. S. Klein, National secretary; Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president; Mrs. C. D. Lowe, member of Washington, D. C., legislation committee.
- New York Herald Tribune Forum. Mrs. Albert L. Gardner, regional vice-president; Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, regional vice-president.
- Ninth Annual School Broadcast Conference. H. B. McCarty, National chairman, committee on Radio.
- Office of Price Administration, consumer advisory committee, conference. Mrs. Glen L. Swiggett, member of our Washington, D. C., legislation committee.
- Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Founding of the United Nations, observance. Howard V. Funk, former second vice-president.
- U.S. Office of Education, home fire safety conference. Mrs. L. K. Nicholson, National chairman, committee on Safety.
- U.S. State Department, meeting to discuss ways and means of achieving lasting peace as proposed by . . . international conferences. Mrs. L. W. Hughes, first vice-president.
- U.S. State Department, meeting to discuss the draft of constitution of the educational and cultural organization of the United Nations. Mrs. William A. Hastings, National president.
- War Food Administration, conference to discuss additional ways to stimulate and encourage home food production and conservation. Mrs. Glen L. Swiggett, member of our Washington, D. C., legislation committee.

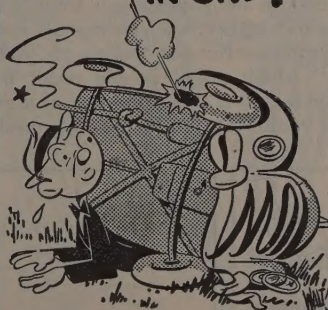
## BUY CAREFULLY!

**P**ARENT-TEACHER groups can render a much-needed national service by helping interpret the next few months' necessity for thoughtful buying. They can keep themselves and their communities informed of clothing and textile situations and can suggest buying practices that will help spread the short supply equitably. Major Herbert Rose, head of CPA's Textile, Clothing, and Leather Division, believes the following practices will be a definite asset in stabilization while our country is changing over to its peacetime economy:

1. Be patient and understanding. Remember that reconversion from wartime to peacetime production and distribution *can't* come over night.
2. When articles are scarce, buy only what you really need now.
3. Remember that each month will find a bigger selection in the stores and that any possible future shortages will be for brief periods only.
4. Before buying any scarce-supply article that you've decided you really need now, consider once more the possibility of making over some old garment to take its place, or of mending the old article still another time to make it last even a little longer.

## "TAKE IT EASY"

it only takes  
**A HOLE  
IN ONE!**



NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL



## NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS



600 SOUTH MICHIGAN BOULEVARD, CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS  
State Office: 308.09 Chamber of Commerce Bldg., Los Angeles 15, Calif.

ALL-INCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP CARD  
NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL, 1945-1946

This certifies that

(NAME)

(TOWN)

IS A MEMBER OF THE  
A UNIT OF THE STATE AND NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS AND THAT ALL  
ANNUAL DUES HAVE BEEN PAID.

MRS. WILLIAM A. HASTINGS  
National President

MRS. J. J. GARLAND  
State President

President of the Local Association

(OVER)

- This card is a symbol of parenthood and teacherhood united in volunteer service to America's children.

ONE of our "publications" that needs particular emphasis at this time of year is the smallest one printed, yet which has the greatest significance—the membership card.

- We rarely even think of it as a publication because we do not use it in committee meetings nor sell it. In many instances we give it as a receipt for dues, and it is often filed away as that and nothing more.

*In reality, however, we pay more in proportion for that tiny bit of pasteboard than for any other publication except our books of several hundred pages. It should accordingly be recognized more often as the badge for which it stands—the privilege of service to our children and their schools.*

- There are times when we ask for other publications that are far more bulky and less costly. We guard our pamphlets carefully—so carefully, in fact, that sometimes their circulation is not as free among members as one might wish!

- But we know that last year at least 3,487,138 cards were printed, handled, signed, circulated, and transferred from one to possibly three different persons and landed—where? Some in the files or in someone's desk drawer!

### Attention . . .

### Local Presidents and Magazine Chairmen!

#### Not Ours

We have no connection whatever with the *Parents' Magazine*. We do not publish it; we do not sponsor it; we do not give certificates for subscriptions to it. We have not authorized any school superintendent or other school person to give the names and addresses of our local presidents to its publishers. The only magazine published and promoted by your National organization is *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine*.

Buy  
Victory  
Bonds

# "Our CARD"

THIS tiny membership card, which costs but a fraction of a cent to produce, has a value far greater than the amount of money we exchange for it. We might well fill a whole page with the *material benefits* alone that are gained through the possession of a P.T.A. membership card—even as a means of identification for opening charge accounts or cashing checks in hotels! In one case, a woman while traveling had her purse containing all her money and her return-trip ticket stolen. When found, the purse was minus all but a few papers and her membership card in her local parent-teacher association. The policeman who helped recover it also loaned her money for her return trip on the grounds that he knew she was honest because of the organization to which she belonged!

- However, such material benefits are merely incidental. The spiritual benefits that accrue from belonging to this democratic association are beyond number. The fact that one tiny card entitles its possessor to take an active part in improving educational policies, legislative platforms, health conditions, and recreational activities brings a new appreciation of its value.

Most men's service clubs and fraternal organizations and many women's clubs turn away their own members unless they present a card or receipt for dues at the door. Although that seems like rather drastic action, it does make them carry and show their membership cards as a badge of admission and acceptance.

PERHAPS we need to stress a greater respect for our P.T.A. membership cards. Naturally, in our democratic organization we bar no one from a local meeting; rather, we *welcome* all visitors and guests. But the feeling of "belonging," which many people need, would be increased if they were one of a group who could vote on important questions

only if their membership card gave them the privilege.

- Many of our thousands of new members are not aware (since conventions have been canceled during wartime) that a local membership card is the *only* way by which one is entitled to vote at state or National conventions.

*There is a belief that if we limited discussion in local meetings to those holding cards, we might enhance their value and dignify their use.*

- The membership card, then, is truly small but mighty, and its strength is what we make it. This power, magnified three and a half million times, is magnificent to contemplate. The very essence of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers lies in the value we ascribe and the use we give to that tiny bit of pasteboard upon which is printed our right to belong to the *greatest organization for good* in the United States today.

—Mrs. E. T. Hale, National Chairman  
Committee on Congress Publications

## P.T.A. ALMANAC FOR NOVEMBER

### Within the association:

- Close of the Summer Round-Up campaign.
- Time to take Christmas gift subscriptions to *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine*.
- Poll of local members for opinions on compulsory military training. Send card or letter stating consensus of opinion to Mrs. Hastings by November 25.
- Completion of membership enrollment.

### Within the community:

- November 11-17—American Education Week. Sponsored by the National Education Association, the American Legion, the U.S. Office of Education, and the *National Congress of Parents and Teachers*. Emphasize the role of education in promoting the general welfare in a world at peace; encourage parents' visits to schools.
- November 11-17—Children's Book Week. Sponsored by the Children's Book Council, 62 West 45th Street, New York 19, New York. Direct members' attention to the essential services of the public library.
- November 22 or 29—Thanksgiving Day. Cooperate with social agencies in doing welfare work on whichever date is celebrated in your state. Give *individual* support to the Victory Loan drive, to the Community Fund campaign, and to the Red Cross.